

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-20 without prejudice.

Please add claim 21 as follows:

21. (New) A circuit for amplifying an input signal close to a ground voltage or a negative supply voltage, the circuit comprising:

a differential difference amplifier having first and second differential input pairs, the first differential input pair coupled across a voltage to be amplified;

a first load device coupled between first and second inputs for the second differential input pair;

a second load device coupled in a feedback loop between an output for the differential difference amplifier and the second input for the second differential pair; and

a voltage offset device coupled between an input for the first differential input pair and an input for the second differential input pair.